

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A piston ring comprising:  
a plurality of surfaces, wherein at least one of said plurality of surfaces includes a first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
2. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating has a thickness of about 0.0002" to about 0.0003".
3. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating has a hardness of at least 70 on the Rockwell "C" hardness scale.
4. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating has a static coefficient of friction of about 0.12.
5. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating withstands temperatures of about -400°F to about 1600°F
6. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said plurality of surfaces includes upper and lower radially extending surfaces each including said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
7. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 6, wherein said plurality of surfaces includes a radially inner vertical surface including said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
8. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said plurality of surfaces includes a radially outer vertical surface having a second coating.
9. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 8, wherein said second coating is a thermal spray coating.

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10. (Withdrawn)
11. (Withdrawn)
12. (Previously Presented) A piston ring comprising:  
upper and lower radially extending surfaces;  
a radially inner vertical surface; and  
a radially outer vertical surface;  
wherein said lower radially extending surface includes a first coating of  
nodular thin dense chromium.
13. (Previously Presented) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said  
upper radially extending surface includes said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
14. (Previously Presented) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said  
radially inner vertical surface includes said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Previously Presented) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said first  
coating has a hardness of at least 70 on the Rockwell "C" hardness scale.
17. (Previously Presented) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said first  
coating has a static coefficient of friction of about 0.12.
18. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said first coating  
has a thickness of about 0.0002" to about 0.0003".
19. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said radially outer  
vertical surface includes a second coating of a thermal spray coating.
20. (Withdrawn)